

**Joan Marsh**Director
Federal Government Affairs

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July 8, 2003

Mr. William Maher Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Washington, DC 20554

Re: Request for Extension of Comment Period

WC Docket No. 03-157

Dear Bill:

Attached please find a Request for Extension of Comment Period in connection with Verizon's recently filed Petition for Expedited Forbearance. This request, which is being submitted by AT&T Corp., Birch Telecom, Broadview Networks, Inc., Covad Communications Company, MCI, Sage Telecom, Inc., Talk America, Z-Tel Communications, Inc., CompTel and the PACE Coalition, is being filed today in the public record of the above-referenced proceeding.

Thank you for your consideration of this Request.

Sincerely,

Joan Marsh

cc: Tamara Preiss, Jeremy Marcus